

Amendments to the Specification:

[0041] All operations in this example were conducted under dry nitrogen. N,N-dimethylaniline (1.90 g; 15.7 mmol) was added to approximately 14.9 g of toluene-wet, purified potassium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate solid (70.4 wt% potassium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate, 10.5 g, 14.6 mmol). Next, diethyl ether (88 g) was added to the mixture. This mixture was stirred until the potassium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate dissolved. While stirring, an aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid (83.5 g, 0.71 wt%; 0.59 g neat, 16.3 mmol) was added during 5 minutes while maintaining the temperature  $< 15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . With continued stirring, the temperature was allowed to warm to  $18^{\circ}\text{C}$  over 30 minutes. Then, the stirring was discontinued, and the mixture was allowed to stand to allow formation of separate aqueous and organic phases. The lower, aqueous phase was removed and discarded. With stirring, the organic phase was washed at  $13$  to  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$  with an aqueous sodium chloride solution (42.5 g, 0.25 wt%). After 20 minutes, the phases were allowed to separate, and the lower, aqueous phase was discarded.